

Sheppey Area Committee meeting: 7 June 2022 – Matters arising

No.	Item	Background	Updates
1.	Coach Parking	<p>Jenny Hurkett from the Criterion at Blue Town raised the matter of coach parking on the Isle of Sheppey.</p> <p>The Head of Environment & Leisure has been in discussions with the Cabinet Member and ward members in relation to coach parking provision. The viability of the Ship on Shore car park is under consideration, however any changes proposed will require public consultation as part of the off-street traffic regulation order variation process. The Head of Environment & Leisure is working on a Cabinet Member decision to give authority for the Parking Services Manager to start the consultation process off.</p>	<p>The Cabinet Member decision was not progressed in time for the change of Constitution.</p> <p>A paper will be taken to the first Community Committee.</p>
2.	Connectivity across Sheppey	<p>A question was asked at the June 2021 meeting about transport issues on the Island. The Quality Bus Partnership has been suspended while (Kent County Council) KCC look at how to set up an Enhanced Partnership which will replace the QBP. The Chair suggests postponing this discussion until more is known about the focus of the new group.</p> <p>The Chairman to consider how to take this forward when more is known about the new group.</p>	<p>Divisional Member for Sheppey, County Council Cameron Beart, reported that KCC were awarded £35.1M from the Government for bus services. An update on the new Enhanced Partnership will be given at the KCC Environment and Transport Committee on 7 July 2022. A fuller update will be provided at the September 2022 Sheppey Area Committee Meeting.</p>

3.	The state of Blue Town	Jenny Hurkett the founder of the Criterion, Blue Town commented on the appalling state of the historic area of Blue Town and asked what could be done to improve the area.	<p>A Community Safety walkabout took place for the wider Sheerness area in early January.</p> <p>Issues identified include a large amount of environmental based concerns which have been flagged with Environmental Response and the Contracts team to deal with. An issue with the security of the water tower site was also identified and flagged to appropriate teams. Officers will be reviewing wider community safety work in the Sheerness area at a separate meeting soon.</p> <p>The ACT prison scheme has gone out to do some clearing of the spaces.</p>
4.	Sheerness town centre regeneration	Updates have been given at previous meetings on the restoration of the Grade II listed Sheerness clock tower, refurbishment of Master's House, Sheerness and the Sheerness High Street project.	Please see Appendix 1.
5.	Restoration of war memorial, Sheerness	<p>Updates have been given at previous meetings on the restoration of Sheerness war memorial.</p> <p>The dedication of the Sheerness War memorial took place on Sunday 24 April 2022.</p>	Peter MacDonald advised that subject to the cost & funding, there is a plan to replace the missing letters on the existing Grade 2 listed War Memorial, it would appear that when the War

			<p>Memorial was cleaned some years ago by the Swale Contractor some of the 100 year old lead lettering was cleaned off, these days the work is very specialized & there are few in UK who have the necessary skill to undertake the work, an ex. Chatham Royal Naval Dockyard skilled tradesman has been identified who will start with making one lead letter by first tracing the matching size & font. With regard to the land at the rear, the Heras Fencing will be left until the COVID testing station leaves, the area needs to be secure to prevent vandals desecrating the back of the wall.</p>
6.	Queenborough and Rushenden regeneration	It was agreed that Homes England would be asked to give an update every six months.	Petra Clarke provided an update at the March 2022 meeting.